

December 13th, 2020 Third Sunday of Advent

MASSES FOR THIS WEEK

Saturday, December 12th

Our Lady of Guadalupe

National Day of Prayer in Solidarity with Indigenous Peoples

4:30 Vincent Cosentino by Nadine Cosentino, Kenneth Berall, Vanessa, Melissa & Alexis Berall

Sunday, December 13th

Third Sunday of Advent

10:30 Dr. Pat Fitzgerald by the Family

Monday, December 14th

St. John of the Cross

9:00 Winnifred Dagleish by Bill and Eileen Curran

Tuesday, December 15th

9:00 Soul of Fabian Doulton by his sister Effie Cordeiro

Wednesday, December 16th

9:00 Hon. Frederick Collins & Mrs. Irene Collins by their Family

Thursday, December 17th

No Mass

Friday, December 18th

9:00 For Sr. Margaret MacDonnell, Blessings on her 100th Birthday by Kathleen Toomey

Saturday, December 19th

4:30 Harrison Thomas Joseph & Lidia Bartolla Diaz Abreus by Lucy-Ann Joseph

This week the Sanctuary lamp

will burn in memory of

Frank Di Caprio

by Lucy-Ann Joseph & the Family

REFLECTION

Today we celebrate the Third Sunday of Advent, Gaudete Sunday. “Gaudete” is a Latin word, meaning “rejoice.” The Christian steward should be characterized by a spirit of rejoicing.

Our First Reading, from Isaiah, expresses a fitting motto for us. “I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul.” It is God who is the source of our joy and contentment — not things or achievements or comfort, but our relationship with God.

This is why stewards can share so freely of their time, talents and material possessions — because ultimately, we are not attached to these things. We recognize them as good gifts from our loving Father, but we are attached to the Giver of the gifts, not the gifts themselves. This allows for great freedom in life and the capacity for great joy in the Lord.

We can become like John the Baptist, in today's Gospel passage from the book of John. We read this description of the prophet: “He came for testimony, to testify to the light... He was not the light but came to testify to the light.” This is our calling too — to testify to the Light, our wonderful Savior — by the way we make use of the time, talent and treasure He has entrusted to our care.

When God Himself is the source of our joy, it cannot be taken away from us. There is still time, this Advent season, to clear away any “clutter” in our lives that may take our focus away from Him. Let us strive to detach from any of these things so that we can be free to truly rejoice in God on Christmas Day

www.catholicsteward.com

Schedule of Masses ~ Christmas Season 2020

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24th 6:30pm 8:00pm 9:30 pm

Christmas Day

Friday, December 25th 9:30am 11:00 am

Feast of the Holy Family

Saturday, December 26th 4:30pm

Sunday, December 27th 10:30 am

New Year's Day Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Thursday, December 31st 4:30 pm

Friday, January 1st 10:30 am

Epiphany of the Lord

Saturday, January 2nd 4:30 pm

Sunday, January 3rd 10:30 am

Please note that all above listed Masses require reservations via our website (www.ascensionoffourlord.ca) and are limited to 25 persons per Mass.

Reservations for the Christmas Masses open December 14th

Reservations for weekend Masses (December 26-27 & January 2-3 will open on Monday December 21st & December 28th respectively.

Weekly Donation Envelope Boxes

Parishioners who use the envelope system for their parish contribution will find the 2021 boxes available at the main entrance of the church. Please be sure to pick up only the box that has your name and number on it. Boxes are in alphabetical order. If you are currently not able to attend Mass in person or if you don't have a donation envelope box—but would like to make your weekly donations to the parish using this method, or if you have any questions please contact the parish office. Thank you for your faithful generosity.

Christmas Flowers to Decorate the Church

You are invited to make a donation toward the purchase of flowers to decorate the church and altar for the Christmas season. If you wish your donation to be made in memory of a loved one please include the names with your donation. Donations should be received at the latest by December 20th in order to allow us to plan the decor of the church during this holy season.

Sunday Missals 2021

The Living with Christ Sunday Mass books are available for sale at the back of the church. The cost is \$5 each. The supply is limited so you are encouraged to purchase your copy as soon as possible & write your name in your book.

If you are currently not able to attend Mass in person, but would like a Missal, please contact the parish to make arrangements to obtain one.

Resources for Advent Reflection and Prayer

1. The “Praying Advent” website offers many helpful resources for individuals and families who want some help to begin the season of Advent and move through it well. There are a great variety of pages which will address the issues almost anyone is facing. In addition, there is a Daily Prayer for each day of Advent. Just Google “Praying Advent” or go directly to: onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/Advent

2. Loyola Press Advent Resources www.loyolapress.com/liturgical-year/advent
Includes interactive Advent calendars for adults, children and families, Advent activities for children and inspirational articles for all.

3. Ignatian contemplation and reflective prayer encourage us in the season of Advent. Resources include: Advent Weekly Prayer reflections, Video Reflections & Podcasts
<https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/advent/>

Pope Francis proclaims “Year of St. Joseph”

In a new Apostolic Letter entitled *Patris corde* (“With a Father’s Heart”), Pope Francis describes Saint Joseph as a beloved father, a tender and loving father, an obedient father, an accepting father; a father who is creatively courageous, a working father, a father in the shadows.

The Letter marks the 150th anniversary of Blessed Pope Pius IX’s declaration of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. To celebrate the anniversary, Pope Francis has proclaimed a

special “Year of St Joseph,” which began December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception and extends to the same feast in 2021.

From the Diocese: An Advent microsite, just for you!

The Diocese of Montreal has prepared a special microsite dedicated to Waiting in Joyful Hope and Welcoming Hope and Joy to help you and your families prepare for Advent and Christmas from your own home and at your own pace. Through a series of playlists, we invite you to dive deeper into the meaning of Advent and Christmas celebration in your own "home church."

These playlists contain suggestions of things to do, watching, listening and praying as we prepare our hearts for God's coming as a little child and are divided into 4 categories: children/families, teens, young adults and adults. We encourage you to visit:

<https://microsites.diocesemontreal.org/microsites/avent/en/home/>